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# **REMARKS**

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## I. Status of the Claims

Claims 1-43 are currently pending in the Application. Applicant has cancelled claims 1-31, 34, and 36, herein. Of the remaining claims, only claim 32 is in independent format.

The present Response is intended to be fully responsive to the rejections raised by the Examiner and is believed to place the application in condition for allowance. Further, the Applicant does not concede any of the Examiner's comments not particularly addressed. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the application is respectfully requested.

## II. Status of the Claims

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-33, 35, 37, 43, and 44. The Examiner has also objected to claims 34, 36, and 38-42 as being dependent on a rejected base claim, but the Examiner indicated that claims 34, 36, and 38-42 would be allowable if written in independent form.

## III. Responses to Objections and Rejections

As discussed above, the Examiner indicated that claims 34, 36, and 38-42 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Applicant has herein amended claim 32 to include the limitations of allowable claims 34 and 36. Claims 33, 35, and 37-44 now also either depend from claim 32 or depend from a claim that depends from claim 32. In view of these amendments, Applicant submits that the application is in condition for allowance.

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# CONCLUSION

In light of the above amendments and remarks, Applicant submits that the present application is in condition for allowance and respectfully requests notice to this effect. The Examiner is requested to contact Applicant's representative below at (312) 913-0001 if any questions arise or if he may be of assistance to the Examiner.

Respectfully submitted,

McDONNELL BOEHNEN

HULBERT & BERGHOFF LLP

Date: 7/20/2006

Ву:

Eric R. Moran Reg. No. 50,967